

### REMARKS

In this Amendment, Applicant has cancelled Claim 5 without prejudice or disclaimer and amended Claims 1, 6 and 7 to specify certain embodiment of the present invention and overcome the rejection. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been introduced by the amendment. All claims are now present for examination and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the preceding amendments and the following comments.

#### REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103:

Claims 1 – 6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over by Kashimura (US 5,381,179), hereinafter Kashimura, in view of Kamamoto et al. (US 5, 829,429), hereinafter Kamamoto, and further in view of Takahi et al. (US 6,226,448).

Applicant traverses the rejection and respectfully submits that the embodiments of present-claimed invention are not obvious over Kashimura in view of Kamamoto and Takahi. More specifically, Claim 1 has been amended to clearly define that the monitor screen 4 is rotatable between a first position in which it is closed as facing with the first side face 2C and a second position in which it is opened as turning away from the first side face 2C, as shown by the arrow A in FIG. 1B and disclosed on page 9, lines 4 – 8; and, when the monitor screen 4 is in the second position, the axis 3B of the grip 3 is almost orthogonal to the optical axis and almost matches the center of gravity G of the camera-equipment recording/reproducing apparatus, as shown in FIG. 11 and disclosed on page 10, lines 23 – 28.

It is respectfully submitted that this structure or mechanism allows long photographing with less tiredness to a user of the claimed apparatus as discussed on page 10, lines 29 to 34. None of Kashimura, Kamamoto or Takahi discloses or suggests such a structure or mechanism. In summary, Applicant respectfully submits that there are

significant differences between the embodiments of the present invention and the teaching of Kashimura in view of Kamamoto and Takahi. There is no motivation to combine Kashimura with Kamamoto and Takahi. Even if they are combined, they will not render the present invention as mended obvious.

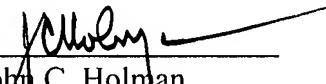
Therefore, the newly presented claims are not obvious over Kashimura in view of Kamamoto and Takahi and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) has been overcome. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) is respectfully requested.

Having overcome all outstanding grounds of rejection, the application is now in condition for allowance, and prompt action toward that end is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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